

Student's Rap

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Report on CIA

But GOP Is Cool
To Call for ProbeCPYRIGHT BY ROBERT WALTERS
Star Staff Writer

The president of the National Student Association today charged that the interim White House report on the Central Intelligence Agency's covert funding of domestic organizations was a "whitewash."

"We continue to feel that the CIA's use of private organizations is unjustified in a free and open society," W. Eugene Groves told a news conference.

"When you have the director of the CIA being one of the people who makes the report, you do not think it would be critical of the CIA," said Groves. He called for a full congressional investigation of the issue.

GOP Opposes Quiz

Senate and House Republican leaders, holding a separate news conference at the same time, supported the intelligence agency and indicated they would prefer to have Congress drop the issue.

"I prefer to leave it stand where it is," said Sen. Everett M. Dirksen.

Gerald R. Ford, House minority leader, said he "strongly feels" there already is sufficient congressional supervision over the CIA.

Ford said both Republican and Democratic members of the House Appropriations Committee were aware of and approved the CIA's clandestine financing of numerous private groups.

"My conclusion is that intelligence is not intelligence and is of dubious value unless it is secret," Dirksen said, adding that the British, French, and Russians would never air such matters publicly.

Issue Interim Report

Groves' organization initiated the current controversy almost two weeks ago when it disclosed that it had been receiving millions of dollars in covert funds from the CIA from 1952 to 1965.

That disclosure came after Ramparts magazine announced that its March issue would contain a lengthy story on the NSA-CIA relationship.

In the middle of the dispute, President Johnson named Richard Helms, CIA director, John

W. Gardner, secretary of Health Education and Welfare, and Undersecretary of State Nicholas Katzenbach to investigate the CIA's funding of educational and other private groups.

The White House yesterday released an interim report, and said the President endorsed its findings. The report said the CIA's disputed activities were "in accordance with the national policies established by the National Security Council in 1952 through 1954."

The report said the last four presidents had approved of the policies and added:

"The CIA has been, and continues to be, indispensable to the security of the nation. It is vitally important that the current controversy not be permitted to obscure the value, or impede the effectiveness, of competent and dedicated career officials serving this country."

"Whitewash" Charged

Groves and other NSA officers called their news conference to proclaim determination to maintain student association as this country's national union of students and to tell of support they have received from individuals and other organizations in achieving that goal.

But when asked about the White House report, Groves said:

"In effect, this was a whitewash for the CIA's role.

"There ought to be a more independent investigation of the exact nature and extent" of the CIA's influence over domestic groups by a congressional committee.

Edward Schwartz, NSA's national affairs vice president, said the brief White House interim report "didn't deal with any of the central questions involved—the various political and ethical questions. Until those questions are raised and answered, there will be no thorough investigation."

Statement Published

Groves, in a prepared statement, added:

"Whatever the extenuating circumstances may have been, the use of covert means to build

democratic institutions reflects a monumental contradiction in the construction of American society.

"Public reaction abroad has indicated as much. The revelations of the past week have shocked the world, to the extent of jeopardizing much of the productive work undertaken to build international understanding and of undermining the trust placed in Americans working overseas.

"While NSA has been, and remains, anti-Communist, the world now knows that the U.S. has employed many of the same secretive techniques to fight representatives of a closed society that those societies use themselves.

"We call for a thorough examination of the institutions of American society—from our schools to our factories and offices—to develop new ways of building free and democratic institutions."

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